

REQUIRES MONITORING
OR STAFF ACTION _____

COMMISSION DIRECTIVE

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	DATE	<u>September 15, 2005</u>
MOTOR CARRIER MATTERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOCKET NO.	<u>2005-271-C</u>
UTILITIES MATTERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		_____

SUBJECT:

DOCKET NO. 2005-271-C – Application of the Office of Regulatory Staff for a Waiver of Qualifications for the Lifeline/Linkup Programs for Victims of Hurricane Katrina Pending Action By the Federal Communications Commission. Discuss this matter with the Commission.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Mr. Chairman, in regard to the ORS' motion to grant waivers of eligibility requirements, the Federal Communications Commission may or may not take action with respect to Lifeline and Link-Up eligibility standards for persons displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Instead, implementation of waivers may well be left to the states. In order to be proactive in meeting the needs of the victims of this horrific natural disaster, I believe that this Commission should authorize the Office of Regulatory Staff to develop appropriate waivers even in the absence of action by the FCC.

The ORS should work with FEMA, DHHS, the telecommunications industry and other appropriate agencies to develop waivers and relaxed eligibility standards as appropriate to the current emergency.

Therefore, **I move that** the Office of Regulatory Staff, in conjunction with the aforementioned agencies and the telecommunications industry in South Carolina prepare appropriate guidelines for waivers of and relaxation of the eligibility requirements for the Lifeline and Link-Up programs. These waivers should be of no more than six months' duration and must be non-discriminatory in nature.

I also move that the Commission request that ORS present the guidelines to the Commission within two weeks of the date of this meeting. I so move.

PRESIDING Mitchell

	MOTION	YES	NO	OTHER		
					APPROVED	<input type="checkbox"/>
					APPROVED STC 30 DAYS	<input type="checkbox"/>
					ACCEPTED FOR FILING	<input type="checkbox"/>
					DENIED	<input type="checkbox"/>
					AMENDED	<input type="checkbox"/>
					TRANSFERRED	<input type="checkbox"/>
					SUSPENDED	<input type="checkbox"/>
					CANCELED	<input type="checkbox"/>
					SET FOR HEARING	<input type="checkbox"/>
					ADVISED	<input type="checkbox"/>
					CARRIED OVER	<input type="checkbox"/>
					RECORDED BY	<u>JBS</u>
CLYBURN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
FLEMING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
HAMILTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
HOWARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
MITCHELL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
MOSELEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
WRIGHT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Absent		
Session:	Special					
Time of Session	10:15 AM					

**Commissioner Wright was absent due to attending a NARUC Utility Rate School in Florida.